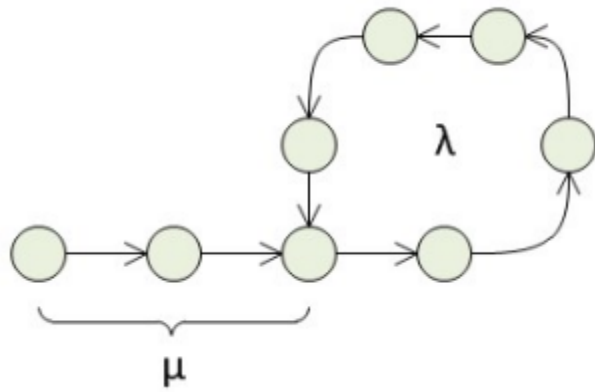


Floyd Cycle detection

Let us consider a linked list with a cycle as having a tail μ items long and a cycle λ items long.



We can always find a number m such that: $m\lambda \geq \mu$

$m\lambda$'s position in the cycle is $m\lambda - \mu$. Extra full cycles of move won't matter.

In particular: $m\lambda + m\lambda$ and $m\lambda$ will meet at $m\lambda - \mu$

SO, if we have a pointer move twice each time and a pointer move once. They will meet!

The CYCLE DETECTION CODE:

```
def detect_cycle(head):
    tortoise = head
    hare = head

    while hare:
        tortoise = tortoise.next
        hare = hare.next
        if hare:
            hare = hare.next
            if tortoise is hare:
                return True
    return False
```

Once cycle detection ends, the slow stops at position $(m\lambda - \mu)$ in the cycle and moved $m\lambda = \mu + (m\lambda - \mu)$

Start from head with a new pointer, move 1 step each time; and the slow pointer starts moving again.

Once both pointers moved μ . low pointer's position $\mu + m\lambda$ treated as $\mu + (m\lambda - \mu + \mu)$

SO on the cycle, the new pointer and the slow pointer meet, because they are at the same position in the cycle, that is the intersection node

```
tortoise = head
hare = head

# Determine if there is a cycle.
while hare:
    tortoise = tortoise.next
    hare = hare.next
    if hare:
        hare = hare.next
        if tortoise is hare:
            print(tortoise)
            break
    else:
        return (False, None)

# Determine the length of the tail mu.
hare = head
mu = 0
while hare is not tortoise:
    hare = hare.next
    tortoise = tortoise.next
    mu += 1
return (True, mu)
```